

Remarks

Claims 39-57 and 61-123 have been canceled. New claims 125-156 have been added. Support for these new claims can be found throughout the specification. For example, support for new claim 125 can be found in paragraphs 79, 101, and 221; support for new claims 126 and 127 can be found in paragraphs 6, 21, 101, 121, 125-130, 145, 157, 178, and 223-231; support for new claim 128 can be found in paragraph 236; support for new claim 129 can be found in paragraph 239; support for new claims 130 and 131 can be found in paragraphs 108, 121, 131, 134, 157, 221, 239, and 245; support for new claim 132 can be found in paragraphs 97, 109, 112, 121, 140, 258, and 289; support for new claim 133 can be found in paragraphs 112, 121, and 254; support for new claims 134 and 135 can be found in paragraphs 118, 178, 186, 257, 261 and 289; support for new claims 136-143 can be found in paragraph 255 and in original claims 19-21; support for new claim 144 can be found in paragraphs 6, 99, 100, 108, 121, 178, and 221; support for new claim 145 can be found in paragraphs 274 and 300; support for new claim 146 can be found in paragraph 274; support for new claim 147 can be found in paragraphs 91, 92, 195, 254, and 295; support for new claim 148 can be found in paragraph 329; support for new claim 149 can be found in paragraph 339; support for new claims 150 and 151 can be found in paragraphs 274 and 308; and support for new claims 152-156 can be found in Figures 3-9 and in the Examples. Applicant respectfully submits that no new matter has been added by the present Amendment.

Applicant respectfully elects Group I (claims 1-38, 58-60, and 124), drawn to a lentiviral vector comprising the following elements: (i) a functional packaging signal, (ii) a multiple cloning site, and (iii) at least one additional element selected from the group consisting of: a second MCS, a second MCS into which a heterologous nucleic acid is inserted, an HIV FLAP element, an expression-enhancing posttranscriptional regulatory element, a target site for a site-specific recombinase, and a self-inactivating LTR, wherein the lentiviral vector is a lentiviral transfer plasmid or an infectious lentiviral particle, a cell encompassing the transfer or provirus of the lentiviral vector, and kit comprising the lentiviral transfer plasmid. Applicant respectfully submits that new claims 125-152 should be examined along with the Group I claims.

Applicant thanks the Examiner for careful consideration of this case. Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned if there is any question about Applicant's position or if a conversation is otherwise warranted.

Please charge any necessary fees or credit any overpayments to our Deposit Account No. 03-1721.

Respectfully submitted,

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